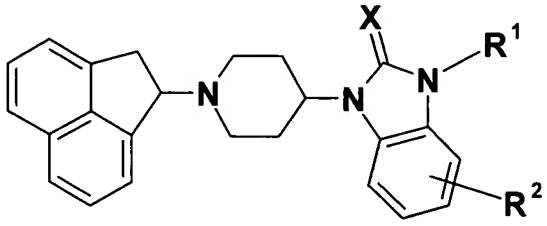
## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

**Claims 1-9 (Cancelled)**

**10. (Currently Amended)** A compound represented by the formula (I)



(I)

wherein

$R^1$ is

(1) hydrogen,

(2) lower alkyl,

(3) lower alkenyl,

(4) -C(O)-lower alkyl,

(5) -C(O)O-lower alkyl,

(6) -C(O)-phenyl (the phenyl group may be substituted with lower alkyl, halogen, lower alkoxy, phenoxy or benzyloxy),

(7) lower alkyl-carboxyl,

(8) lower alkyl-C(O)-phenyl (the phenyl group may be substituted with lower alkyl, halogen, lower alkoxy, phenoxy or benzyloxy),

(9) lower alkyl-C(O)O-lower alkyl,

(10) lower alkenyl-C(O)O-lower alkyl,

(11) lower alkyl-O-lower alkyl,

(12) lower alkyl-C(O)$NR^3R^4$,

(13) -$S(O)_2$-lower alkyl,

(14) -$S(O)_2$-phenyl (the phenyl group may be substituted with lower alkyl, halogen, lower alkoxy, phenoxy or benzyloxy),

(15) lower alkyl-S-lower alkyl,

(16) lower alkyl-S(O)-lower alkyl,

(17) lower alkyl-$S(O)_2$-lower alkyl,

(18) lower alkyl-$S(O)_2NR^3R^4$,

(19) phenyl (the phenyl group may be substituted with lower alkyl, halogen, lower alkoxy, phenoxy or benzyloxy), or

(20) benzyl (the phenyl group may be substituted with lower alkyl, halogen, lower alkoxy, phenoxy or benzyloxy),

$R^2$ is hydrogen, lower alkyl, halogen, lower alkoxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, trifluoromethyl, nitro, amino or cyano,

$R^3$ and $R^4$

may be the same or different, and each is hydrogen, lower alkyl or lower alkenyl, or $R^3$ and $R^4$ may bind with an adjacent nitrogen atom to form a saturated nitrogen-containing hetero ring (the hetero ring may be substituted with lower alkyl, halogen, lower alkoxy, phenoxy or benzyloxy), and

X is O or S[[.)]],

a racemic mixture thereof, an enantiomer corresponding thereto, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

**11. (Original)** The compound of claim 10, wherein $R^2$ is hydrogen, and X is O.

**12. (Original)** The compound of claim 10, wherein $R^1$ is -C(O)-lower alkyl, lower alkyl-$C(O)NR^3R^4$ (either $R^3$ or $R^4$ is hydrogen) or lower alkyl-$C(O)NR^3R^4$ wherein $R^3$ and $R^4$ bind with an adjacent nitrogen atom to form a saturated nitrogen-containing hetero ring (the hetero ring may be substituted with lower alkyl, halogen, lower alkoxy, phenoxy or benzyloxy).

**13. (Original)** The compound of claim 10, which is selected from

(RS)-1-[1-(acenaphthen-1-yl)piperidin-4-yl]-1,3-dihydro-2H-benzoimidazol-2-one,

(R)-1-[1-(acenaphthen-1-yl)piperidin-4-yl]-1,3-dihydro-2H-benzoimidazol-2-one,

(S)-1-[1-(acenaphthen-1-yl)piperidin-4-yl]-1,3-dihydro-2H-benzoimidazol-2-one,

(R)-3-acetyl-1-[1-(acenaphthen-1-yl)piperidin-4-yl]-1,3-dihydro-2H-benzoimidazol-2-one,

(R)-2-{3-[1-(acenaphthen-1-yl)piperidin-4-yl]-2,3-dihydro-2-oxo-benzoimidazol-1-yl}-N-methylacetamide, and

(R)-1-[1-(acenaphthen-1-yl)piperidin-4-yl]-3-(2-oxo-2-piperazin-1-ylethyl)-1,3-dihydro-2H-

benzoimidazol-2-one.

**Claims 14-20 (Cancelled)**

**21. (New)** A method of preventing and/or treating a sleep disorder, comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of claim 10 to a patient.

**22. (New)** The method of claim 21, wherein the sleep disorder is a circadian rhythm sleep disorder.

**23. (New)** The method of claim 22, wherein the circadian rhythm sleep disorder is jet-lag syndrome.

**24. (New)** The method of claim 22, wherein the circadian rhythm sleep disorder is shift-work sleep disorder.

**25. (New)** The method of claim 22, wherein the circadian rhythm sleep disorder is a delayed sleep phase syndrome.

**26. (New)** The method of claim 21, used for preventing and/or treating symptoms involved in a geriatric circadian rhythm sleep disorder.

**27. (New)** The method of claim 21, used for bright light therapy.